

and been lo
spected at

and, resolved on a fight to redeem his waning reputation. Especially as he felt perfectly competent of being able to "lick" the Kearsarge. It was an affair of honor, and he had no other motive. Captain Winslow, as he was called, was a brave, had resorted to the best available means of strengthening his vessel, he roughly coating her with iron. For confirmation, read Semmes' "official" report of the action, addressed to Bullies' Mass, and to him that the Kearsarge was "a magnificent document; to say especially, it is in perfect Southern taste, containing at least one good, thumping, brutal lie, so magnificently unscrupulous in its thoroughgoing unscrupulousity as to have been refuted in advance." He then goes on to state that he "deliberately and systematically attempted to excite odium against the commander of the Kearsarge to what was already known through the publication of the log of the Deerhound and other independent sources, as being the cause of the malignancy of the United States Navy." "First," he says, "the disabled pirate after he had struck her colors, and that there was an intentional delay in sending assistance to her drowning crew. In the perfect spirit of Sheridan's Mrs. Gowers' story, it stated that the Kearsarge, after the hauling down of her colors, Semmes writes, "It is charity to suppose that a ship-of-war of a Christian nation could not have done this intentionally." Alluding to me from the enemy after my ship went down." Lists, says the author, should have good memories—they should also be possessed of a good eyesight, and the faculty of making judicious remarks. "The Kearsarge could hardly have escaped scolding; the log of the Deerhound, which states explicitly: "At 10:30, observed the Alabama to be disabled and in a sinking state. We immediately made her parallel, and as she was disabled, we fired a shot at her, in saving the Alabama's crew." This sentence is quite sufficient to refute Semmes' statement, and ought to have been sufficient to prevent it from having ever been put on paper. In point of fact, the Kearsarge was disabled, and the Alabama was not. The English editors, remember—and Semmes is a proper individual to complain that he was not among them! Considering the extent he has rendered himself amenable to the claims of his country, it is a great pity that the name of his ship, as borne at Southampton, the object of a good deal of despicable popularity, he were on board the Kearsarge, he would have small chance of commanding another Alabama—still smaller to be the ally of a ship that has been so long employed for the last two years, plundering and burning unarmed merchantmen, there is a delightful favor of cant about his "charitable" supposition what "a ship of war of a Christian nation" would do. In conclusion, the sympathy of the British nation, which is prone to similar indulgences. Remark, too, that he does not say that the Kearsarge fired upon the Alabama after the white flag had been hoisted, but after her colors had been hoisted, and, as a matter of fact, the circumstance, while the former would have unmistakably indicated the surrender of the vessel, the latter might not necessarily have done so. The pirate flag had been hoisted three or four times during the action, and it is probable that the hauling down would be distinctly distinguished from the more summary method.

sight, and the faculty of making judicious use of it. At the time this report was written the late commander of the Alabama was in the Gulf of Mexico, and the loss of the Decatur, which states explicitly: "At 10:30, observed the Alabama to be disabled and in a sinking state. We immediately made toward her, and on passing the *Kearsarge* rose, *regretted* that we were not nearer her." This evidence is quite sufficient to refute Semmes's statement, and ought to have been sufficient to prevent it from having ever been put on paper. In point of fact, the *Kearsarge* saved the greater part of the Alabama's crew, and Semmes's remarks about her—and Semmes—is a proper individual to complain that he was not among them! Considering the extent he has rendered himself amenable to the laws of his country, it is pretty certain that if Semmes had been a British subject, he would have had a good deal of despicable popularity; he were on board the *Kearsarge*, he would have small chance of commanding another Alabama—still smaller that he has already. Remembering that Semmes has been a British subject, plundering and burning unarmed merchantmen, there is a delightful flavor of cant about his "charitable" supposition what a "ship of war of a Christian nation" would or would not do, which ought to counterbalance the "disgrace" of it. The truth is, the British nation, which is prone to such canting, is the British nation, which is prone to such canting. Remark, too, that he does not say that the *Kearsarge* fired upon the Alabama after the white flag had been hoisted, but after her colors had been hoisted down. It is a distinction of importance, and it is probable the former would have unmistakably indicated the surrender of the vessel, the latter might not necessarily have done so. The pirate flag had been hoisted down three or four times during the chase, and it is probable that the hoisting down would be instantly distinguished from the more summary method.

repute Semmes's statement, and ought to have been sufficient to prevent it from having ever been put on paper. Semmes's conduct, however, is not to be excused. One of the Alabama's men, English states, remember—and Semmes is a proper individual to complain that he was not among them! Considering the extent he has rendered himself amenable to the laws of this country, it is perfectly certain that if he had been ashore at Southampton, the object of a good deal of despicable popularity, he would on board the Kearsarge, he would have had small chance of commanding another Alabama—still less Alabama.

It is true, however, that Semmes has been employed for the last two years, plundering and burning unarmed merchantmen; there is a deliberate favor of contempt about his "charitable" suggestion what "a ship of war of a Christian nation" would do to him. He deserves the commendation, the admiration, the respect, the sympathy of the British nation, which is prone to similar indulgences. Remark, too, that he does not say that the Kearsarge fired upon the Alabama after the white flag had been hoisted, but Alabama hoisted the black flag. He would have been in a position of influence, because while the former would have unmistakably indicated the surrender of the vessel, the latter might not necessarily have done so. The pirate flag had been hoisted three or four times during the attack, and, as the vessel was not a vessel of war, it is not probable that the hoisting down would be instantly distinguished from the more summary method.

of being ashore at Semtapham, the object of a good deal of despicable popularity, he was on board the Kearsarge, he would have been still smaller than he has already. Remembering how he has been employed for the last two years, plundering and burning unarmed merchantmen, there is a delightful favor of a clown about his character, but the "ashab" of a "Christian nation" could or would not do, which ought to command the admiration, the respect, the sympathy of the British nation, which is prone to similar indulgences. Remark, too, that he does not say that the Kearsarge fired upon the Alabama while she was under colors. The distinction is of importance, because while the former would have unmistakably indicated the surrender of the vessel, the latter might not necessarily have done so. The pirate flag had been hoisted three or four times before the colors were raised, and it is hardly probable that the hoisting down would be instantly distinguished from the more summary method.

of war of a Christian nation" would or would not do, which ought to command the admiration, the respect, the sympathy of the British nation, which is pronounced similar indulgence. The sentiment, too, is expressed as "clearly" as the flag was hoisted upon the Alabama after the white flag had been hoisted; but after her colors had been hoisted down. The distinction is of importance, because while the former would have unambiguously indicated the surrender of the vessel, the latter might not necessarily have done so. The plan of the action, and had it been carried out, would have been to hoist and lower the flag, and then to replace the flag, and it is hardly probable that the hoisting down would be instantly distinguished from the more summary method.

dictated the surrender of the vessel, the latter might not necessarily have done so. The pirate flag had been shot down three or four times during the action, and had been replaced, and it is hardly probable that the hauling down would be instantly distinguished from the more summary method.

burra over the matter, pronouncing Semmes' acceptance of the challenge of the Kearsarge a Balaklava charge, in which all the honor belongs to the vanquished. But, remembering the indignation "Let these laugh that win," we can afford them that triumph. At Southampton there was talk of giving Semmes a public dinner, but nothing came of it beyond talk. And now

from the Junior United Service Club to the papers, proposes a subscription for the purpose of presenting him with a sword. Jim suggests that the doing this "will doubtless gratify the admirers of gallantry," and that "gentlemen wishing to partake in this testimony to unflinching patriotism" (in the perpetration of arson) "and naval daring" (in luring an unfortunate gangster

pouring into her a sudden broadside," may do so by communicating with the Chairman, Admiral Anson, United Service Club, Pall Mall, or, Str. Yours, &c., Pim." Admiral Anson and Pim are quite ready to receive guineas, to which gentle sum the subscription is limited, in order that "a larger number of friends" (of anson and pim?) may enjoy that precious privilege. But

even the sensational and sympathizing with Secession *Telegraph* raps the enthusiastic Plin over his naval knuckles. "If a sword is to be given to anybody," says *The Telegraph*, "it should be presented to Mr. Laird, or to the foreman of his works." Respectfully, I suggest an amendment in the substitution of the word *hugger* as much more appropriate. Furthermore, the

world" (so advertised on the dead walls of London), thinks that "we"—the British people—"have had a good deal too much to do already with the Alabama. She was built in England; she had an English crew on board her when she went down; she fought the action with English cannon; and her commander, we are pleased to know, escaped by the humanity of an En-

guinea vacuum. All of walking was admirably calculated to induce Britons to subscribe their guineas. What can be more adapted to excite their admiration and induce reward than the knowledge that they are indirectly complimenting themselves! Finally, *The Telegraph* concludes with "Let the Alabama alone!—lest the Yankees set on 'the dangerous precedent' in the war which we seem drifting into with Germany."

A word more yet, and an important one about this famous sea fight. Mr. John Lancaster of Hindley Hall, Wigan, Lancashire, member of the Royal Yacht Squadron at Cowes and the Royal Mercat Yacht Club, and owner of the Deerhound (which by a curious coincidence was built by Laird the raceably saved Scumme, his 13 officers and 56 men, landing them at Southampton

—possibly a humane act. But how does it help the cause of enabling them to escape certain capture? It is expected that a demand will be made for them by the American Government; the subject has been talked over and discussed in the clubs to an immense extent. "Depend upon it," the club verdict is, "that it will be regarded as another British outrage." I saw a purple-faced, shaggy, frascible, old East Indian colonel—something

one's Major Bagstock—got into a tremendous rage, the other day, with a civilian who had mildly suggested the possibility that the late commander of the Alabama would anticipate the difficulties of the case by quietly leaving England. If I should endeavor to report the remarks of the military hero—he was a peer's brother, too—it would be at the expense of many informal superlatives.

To the other topic of the week, for my letter will contain but two. Is it to be war or peace? Is becoming more and more the question of the hour. For a long time the world has been struggling to stem the current

which has been carrying her down to a war which, if begun, must ultimately prove European. It seems as if the tide had brought her very near to this goal at last. The Conference has met, and failed. To-day it assembles, in the words of Lord Palmerston, for its "last and final" meeting. If I could tell you what will have transpired in those apartments in Downing street (to

the assembly conclude turn up curious eyes before I shall close this letter, the news might be worth hearing. You will hardly get it until next Wednesday's steamer. Something may occur, it is eagerly hoped, at the eleventh hour, to stop the fresh outpouring of blood—if only an extension of the armistice; but at present it hardly seems probable. Prussia rejects the proposition of En-

cally. All sorts of rumors have been rife in London—of the resignation of Ministers—a coalition with France with a view to a combined war on Germany—the departure of the Channel fleet to the Baltic. On Monday, the 27th, we are to know all about it; then the Government lays before Parliament all the documents relating to this abortive scheme for restoring the peace of Europe.

with this contention, that it has hoped against hope, and believed against evidence, requires no proof. Indeed its adversaries charge it with the opposite error of a reluctance to incur the risk of war vying on national dishonor. The country, however, barring a clamorous Tory minority, has hitherto been, with them in its desire for peace. But the question is not now about the

to the fighting point without much difficulty, and the Ministerial press has been stirring him anxiously of late. There is no doubt that the curt explanations given on the 23d were understood as significant of the approach of war, and the general expectation is that on Monday the announcement will be made that the fleet has really received orders to sail for the Baltic—a state

The crisis is a grave one, hardly realized by the many, from the fact that it has been arrived at so gradually. Nobody wants war, but Bull doesn't see his way out of it without. There is a chance, not perhaps a remote one, that Germany, or at all events Austria, may "back down" from Belloc's grim ultimatum. It

he has roared before—bellowed like the lion in the battle—
 "Who roared so loud and looked so wondrous grim,
 His very shadow daunt not follow him."
 and no performance followed. It is the old story of the
 boy who cried, "Wolf! wolf!" too often. The Con-
 tinent does not believe in the reality of the danger. The

dutchess and *Filigrane Blatters*; while Imperial Exauce looks on with a smile of Mephistophelian satisfaction. And that is how England stands at present, on the brink of a great calamity, from which no perceptible good can be extracted. There will many a prayer be offered up to-morrow by English wives and mothers that the peril may be averted.

F. B. G.

The New-Haven Palladium says, on authority, that Mr. B. M. C. Durfee of Fall River, Mass., did not give the anonymous contribution of \$20,000 to Yale College.